

Message Text

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42

ORIGIN ARA-10

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DRAFTED BY ARA/ECP: CWREYNOLDS:JD

APPROVED BY ARA/ECP:WKNEPPER

ARA/PAN: HSTEIN

EB: JKATZ

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PANAMA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 061620

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E.O. 11652: DECLAS 1/1/76

TAGS: ETRD, EAGR

SUBJECT: FRESH MEAT: RESTRAINT PROGRAM FOR 1975

REF: (1) PANAMA 433; (2) PANAMA 753; (3) PANAMA 780;
(4) STATE 282971 (1974); (5) SAN JOSE 587 (TOPAS)

1. THIS MESSAGE PROVIDES GUIDANCE ADDITIONAL TO THAT INCLUDED IN GENERAL CABLE OUTLINING PROPOSED U.S. MEAT IMPORT RESTRAINT PROGRAM FOR 1975.

2. EMBASSY PANAMA WILL NOTE THAT PROPOSED RESTRAINT LEVEL FOR PANAMA IS BELOW THAT ASSIGNED IN THE ORIGINAL PROGRAM PROPOSAL CONTAINED IN REFTEL STATE 282971 (1974). EMBASSY MAY POINT OUT TO GOP THAT REASON FOR LOWER LEVEL ADOPTED IS USE OF A BASE FORMULA (SEE SEPTTEL) WHICH IN THE AGGREGATE IS HIGHLY FAVORABLE TO WESTERN HEMISPHERE PRODUCERS. THIS FORMULA, NOW PROPOSED FOLLOWING CONSULTATIONS WITH ALL SUPPLIERS, REFLECTS ADDED EXPORT PRODUCTION CAPACITY DEVELOPED DURING PAST FEW YEARS BY SOME PRODUCERS. PANACONFIDENTIAL

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MANIAN SHIPMENTS TO THE U.S. HAVE DECLINED (1972 - 4.9

M.LBS.; 1973 - 2.1 M.LBS.; 1974 - 2.9 M.LBS.) DURING THE SAME PERIOD. THE RESULT, ON A STRICT STATISTICAL CALCULATION OF SHARES, IS A REDUCTION FROM THE ORIGINAL 3.0 MILLION POUND PROPOSED PANAMANIAN RESTRAINT LEVEL FOR 1975. (MADE WHEN CALENDAR 1974 FIGURES WERE NOT YET AVAILABLE) TO 2.5 MILLION POUNDS.

3. EMBASSY MAY ALSO INDICATE THAT PERIODIC ADJUSTMENTS TO THE ALLOCATION BASIS FOR THE U.S. MEAT IMPORT PROGRAM ARE BOTH REASONABLE AND NECESSARY TO PROVIDE EQUITY IN DEALING WITH CHANGING SUPPLY CAPACITIES OF EXPORTING COUNTRIES. CURRENT CAPACITY TO SUPPLY THE U.S. MARKET IS REFLECTED IN USE OF THE BEST OF THE PAST TWO CALENDAR YEARS AS THE BASE FOR THE PROPOSED ALLOCATION. INGERSOLL

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